

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated June 13, 2006. The deadline for responding has been extended to October 13, 2006 by way of a request for a 3 month extension of time.

I. Discussion

Claims 1-19 and 27-34 are pending. Claims 20-26 were previously canceled and claims 35-43 have been canceled herein in response to the restriction requirement.

In Response to the Office Action and Restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute Group A which includes independent claims 1 and 27. Applicant believes the claims which depend from these claims also belong to the elected claim Group and should be considered along with independent claims 1 and 27.

Applicants have canceled claims 35-45 which were directed to the non-elected claim group.

II. Statement of the Substance of the Interview

1. Date of Interview: August 15, 2006
2. Type of Interview: Telephone
3. Names of Participants:
Examiner: Willie J. Daniel, Jr.;
Erika Gary (Primary)
Applicant's Rep: Michael P. Straub
4. Exhibit(s) Shown: None.
5. Claims discussed: 1, 27, 35, and 42-43

6. References Discussed: None

7. Proposed Amendments discussed:
None

8. Discussion of General Thrust
of the Principal Arguments

Applicant's representative requested clarification of the previous office action and suggested that electing a claim group and filing a request for continued Examination would be responsive. The Examiners indicated Applicant could elect one of the claim groups (Group A corresponding to independent claims 1 and 27 or Group B corresponding to independent claims 35, 42 and 43). Applicants representative agreed to make an election and file a Request for Continued Examination.

9. Other Pertinent Matters Discussed:
None

10. General Results/Outcome of Interview

Applicant's representative agreed to make an election to one of the Claim Groups in the response and the Examiner agreed to consider the elected claims.

Conclusion


Consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any outstanding issues which need to be resolved to place the application in condition for

allowance the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by phone to discuss and hopefully resolve said issues. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made and any required fee is authorized to be charged to the deposit account of Straub & Pokotylo, deposit account number 50-1049.

Respectfully submitted,

October 13, 2006

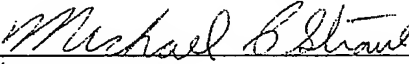

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (and any accompanying paper(s)) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent Office on the date shown below.

Michael P. Straub

Type or print name of person signing certification


Signature

October 13, 2006
Date